anthropomorphic figurines of bone and marble were found, probably abstract images of the goddess. These were of two kinds. The first has head and legs indicated and there is an accentuated pubic triangle, or "womb," usually surrounded by dots. Made of gold, marble, bone or clay, these are known in considerable numbers from Bulgaria and Romania. One of gold from Ruse and another of marble from Razgrad in Bulgaria are reproduced here. The second are "T" or "mushroom"-shaped abstractions of human form, made of bone or marble and worn as pendants. Round convex plates with perforations on the sides were attached to indicate eyes, breasts and pubis. Morphologically the latter are relatives of the gold pendants with "eye" perforations. Variants of such gold pendants as found in eastern Hungary and northern Yugoslavia, have round embossings, apparently for eyes, breasts, and pubis.

The "mask-graves" are possibly ritual tombs for the Goddess of Regeneration. Perhaps it was necessary to bury her in order to ensure the rebirth. Symbolic designs painted in graphite or gold on large dishes and lidded globular vases from this cemetery accentuate the idea of regeneration. The whirl pattern motif of helixes and "uteri" on Varna wares is a four-corner composition of symbols. This composition, as well as the "uteri" and egg motifs, is commonly associated with the Goddess of Regeneration in all parts of Old Europe and persisted in Bronze Age Crete. Vases with related design motifs have been discovered in shrines. The best analogies for Varna come from Chotnica near Trnvo in northern Bulgaria: in this Karanovo VI village, which is contemporary with Varna, a sanctuary almost quadrangular in plan (ca 4.80 m. x 5 m.), consisting of two rooms, with wall paintings in red color, was unearthed in 1957 (Angelov 1959). In its inner room, at the northern wall, on an elevation (probably a dais), was a gold treasure of forty-four objects. Five vases stood nearby, all decorated with whirl, egg and "uteri" design. Among the gold items were four anthropomorphic pendants—the abstractions of the Goddess we assume—of a type similar to those in Varna (cf. Fig. 14); the other items were bracelets and rings of various dimensions, placed singly or tied in twos or fours. The sanctuary evidently was dedicated to the Goddess of Regeneration. An earlier sanctuary from the beginning of the fifth millennium B.C., consisting of two rooms with two pillars in the inner room has been unearthed at Căscioarele, an island village in the lower Danube region (Hortensia Dumitrescu 1968). Obviously the Goddess had her own sanctuaries and she was the prime goddess of the Karanovians. Naturally, she was invoked at the crisis of death.

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